

We claim:

1. A method for controlled reservoir opening comprising:

providing a biocompatible implantable device which comprises at least one substrate, a plurality of reservoirs in the substrate, reservoir caps each of which covers one of the reservoirs, and molecules sealed inside the reservoirs; and

selectively heating each reservoir cap in an amount effective to rupture the reservoir cap and open the reservoir.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the reservoir cap comprises a metal film.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the heating of the reservoir cap causes it to expand until it cracks or ruptures due to thermal expansion.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the molecules are drug molecules.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the molecules are distributed in a matrix formed of a degradable material.

6. A method for controlled reservoir opening of a device *in vivo* comprising:

implanting into a patient a biocompatible device which comprises at least one substrate, a plurality of reservoirs in the substrate, reservoir caps each of which covers one of the reservoirs, and molecules sealed inside the reservoirs; and

selectively heating each reservoir cap in an amount effective to rupture the reservoir cap and open the reservoir.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the reservoir cap comprises a metal film.

8. The method of claim 6, wherein the heating of the reservoir cap causes it to expand until it cracks or ruptures due to thermal expansion.

9. The method of claim 6, wherein the molecules are drug molecules.
10. The method of claim 1, wherein the molecules are distributed in a matrix formed of a degradable material.